



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

made. In the Cambridge expedition to Torres Straits a few initial attempts were made to secure records along the methods of the new psychology. Whatever be the method employed the need is great for intelligent and appreciative collection of data.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Burmese Self-Taught. (In Burmese and Roman Characters) with Phonetic Pronunciation. (Thimm's System.) By R. F. St. A. St. John, Hon. M.A. 168 pp. E. Marlborough & Co., London, 1911. \$1.50. 7 x 5.

This forms one of a series of pocket books for the study of alien languages according to a system which, in the case of the European languages, appears to include a laundry list in place of a chrestomathy. The guiding principle of the method seems to be a system of transliteration. The appeal in any such method must lie to the eye, it therefore creates an artificial Burmese which the eye of man never shall see. So far as the aim is to educate the ear and thence the speech organs through sight we see no advantage in this over the simpler method of learning the vernacular alphabet and its sound through the characters which will be always presented to the sight. An alphabet such as that of the Pali with its 32 consonants, 8 vowels and 3 diphthongs should entail no great task of acquisition for the adult student; and once acquired by the eye and the proper sounds enjoined upon the organs of speech there remains no need for the ungainly columns of transliteration. Sixteen pages of this work are devoted to the alphabet and phonetics, the whole of the syntax of the language is crowded within exactly the same number of pages. Few languages are satisfactorily to be learned by sight alone, the difficulty is infinitely greater when the language is tonal; this handbook dismisses the subject of the tones with scarcely more than a hint that therein lies the greatest difficulty. If the system of pronunciation prove feasible the vocabularies and lists of conversations topically arranged should assist the newcomer in the land.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

History of Geology. By Horace B. Woodward. (In series: A History of the Sciences.) viii and 204 pp., illustrations, bibliography and index. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1911. 75 cents. 6½ x 4½.

According to this concise little volume the beginnings of recorded geologic observation date from about 500 B. C. and even geologic theories developed as early as 300 B. C. From these foregleams the growth of the body of geologic truth is fascinatingly traced through Greek, Roman, and Monastic stages, into Zittel's "Heroic Age" in 1790-1820. Chapters II to IV recount the names and achievements, in a more or less biographical style, of a long list of founders of Geology.

Over 350 persons connected with the science are mentioned, together with many organizations,—Surveys and Societies. The pioneer work of Sedgwick and Murchison in interpreting the structure and unraveling the succession of events in the early Paleozoic of the Lake Districts and much of Wales shows the method of geology and the great obstacles overcome in getting a start in stratigraphic geology. The fundamental work of Lyell and Dana in setting down the principles of Geology is graphically sketched. The brief chapter on Paleontology clearly sets forth the position of both those who would interpret geologic succession on a life basis alone, and those who give large place to geographic changes, and physical geology in the solution of problems of geologic synchronism.

G. D. HUBBARD.